

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

ERDA-05 NRC-05 SS-15 NSC-05 /072 W

----- 110927

R 291845Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2095

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3024

E.9. 11652: GDS

TAGS PFOR, NATO, MNUC, NPG

SUBJECT: NPG-MAY 28 STAFF GROUP MEETING

REF: A. USNATO 2937

B. USNATO 2560

C. STATE 107771

SUMMARY. NPG STAFF GROUP MET MAY 28 TO REVIEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE JUNE 3 NPG PERMREPS MEETING. PRINCIPAL DISCUSSION CENTERED ON HANDLING OF NUNN AMENDMENT FOLLOW-UP STUDIES, INCLUDING THE NIKE HERCULES STUDY. STAFF GROUP AGREED THAT THE PARAGRAPH ON THIS SUBJECT IN SYG LUNS' PO ON NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM WHICH STATE THAT THE NPG WOULD REQUEST NMA'S TO UNDERTAKE NUNN AMENDMENT FOLLOW-UP STUDIES, SHOULD BE MODIFIED.

END SUMMARY.

1. NPG STAFF GROUP (SG) MET ON MAY 28 TO REVIEW AGENDA FOR THE JUNE 3 NPG PERMREPS MEETING WHICH CONSISTS OF FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS:

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(1) DRAFT PERREPS REPORT ON THE FOLLOW-ON USE WORK PROGRAM (REF A); AND (2) SYG LUNS' PO ON NPG FUTURE WORK PROGRAM (TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL). ONLY COMMENTS CENTERED ON THE SECOND OF THESE TWO AGENDA ITEMS. SEVERAL SG REPS POINTED OUT THAT PARA 7

OF SYG LUNS' PO ON FUTURE WORK, TO BE ACCURATE, SHOULD INDICATE THAT THE AIR DEFENSE ILLUSTRATIVE STUDY WAS NOT INCLUDED ON THE MONTEREY NPG AGENDA IN ORDER TO HOLD DOWN THE NUMBER OF ITEMS FOR MINISTERIAL DISCUSSION. ACTING SG CHAIRMAN (MENTZEL) TOOK THE POINT, AND SAID IS WOULD CORRECT THE PARAGRAPH IN THE REVISED VERSION OF THE PO.

2. US REP (WOODWORTH) SAID THAT SECOND SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF SYG LUNS' PO ON FUTURE WORK DID NOT APPEAR ACCURATE IN SAYING THAT THE NPG WOULD REQUEST NMA'S TO UNDERTAKE NUNN AMENDMENT FOLLOW-UP STUDIES. OTHER SG REPS AGREED WITH HIS POINT, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL (UK, CANADA, NETHERLANDS) INITIALLY EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT ALL

SUCH STUDIES SHOULD BE ROUTED THROUGH THE NPG FOR POLITICAL ASSESSMENT BEFORE GOING TO THE US. US REP SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES EXPECT THE NPG TO BE FULLY INVOLVED IN APPROPRIATE CONSULTATIONS RELATED TO NUNN AMENDMENT FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS IN NATO.

HE NOTED, IN RESPONSE TO SEVERAL COMMENTS ON HANDLING OF THE NIKE HERCULES STUDY, THAT SACEUR'S REPORT AND MC COMMENTS WOULD BE PROVIDED TO NPG DELEGATIONS AT THE SAME TIME THEY ARE FORWARDED TO THE US. THUS, NPG MEMEBERS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE STUDY, AND TO JUDGE WHAT ACTION BY THE NPG MIGHT BE DESIRABLE. UK (BEAUMONT) ACKNOWLEDGED THESE POINTS; HE SUGGESTED THE FOLLOWING AS AN ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION OF THE SECOND SENTENCE IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF SYG LUNS' PO ON FUTURE WORK: QUOTE. IN THIS CONTEXT, NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES ARE EXPECTED TO UNDERTAKE FURTHER STUDIES, AND I SHALL ENSURE THAT THESE STUDIES WILL BE GIVEN ANY NECESSARY POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS BY THE NPG. UNQUOTE. US REP SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THIS FORMULATION WAS ACCEPTABLE AND OTHER REPS SHARED THIS VIEW.

3. DANISH REP (ROSENTHAL) SAID THAT WHAT THE US PLANNED TO DO WITH THE NIKE HERCULES STUDY COULD AFFECT HOW NPG MEMBERS MIGHT VIEW THE MATTER. HE ASKED, AS AN EXAMPLE, WHETHER THE US PLANNED TO PROVIDE THE STUDY TO CONGRESS. US REP SAID HE DID NOT KNOW. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE US WOULD CONSULT FULLY WITH THE ALLIES

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CONCERNING ACTIONS THAT MAY BE DEEMED DESIRABLE AS A RESULT OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT FOLLOW-ON STUDIES.

4. MISSION COMMENT: US REP DREW ON WASHINGTON GUIDANCE IN REF C IN ABOVE DISCUSSION. WE ANTICIPATE THAT NPG PERMREPS MAY COMMENT ON THE NIKE HERCULES STUDY, AS WELL AS ON GENERAL HANDLING OF NUNN AMENDMENT FOLLOW-UP STUDIES, AT THE JUNE 3 PERMREPS MEETING. MISSION PLANS TO DRAW ON GUIDANCE IN REF C IN ANY SUCH DISCUSSION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO03024
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750599/abbrzkho.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 2937 B. USNATO 2560 C. STATE 107771
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <25 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NPG-MAY 28 STAFF GROUP MEETING
TAGS: n/a
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006